

## **FISCAL NOTE**

### **HB 3139 - SB 3493**

March 6, 2006

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Prohibits any road project to be undertaken on land that is occupied by any century farm without the consent of the owner. Defines “century farm” as any farm that is more than 100 years of age as recognized by the Tennessee Farm Bureau or the Department of Agriculture.

### **ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

#### **Increase State Expenditures – Exceeds \$600,000/Highway Fund**

**Other Fiscal Impact – To the extent roadway project costs increase, fewer projects could be undertaken over time. As a result, enactment of this legislation may impact future matching of federal funds that the state may have otherwise been qualified to receive.**

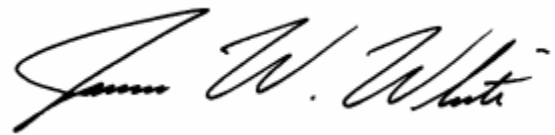
#### Assumptions:

- A century farm must have at least one owner who lives in Tennessee, contain at least 10 acres of land, generate a farm income of at least \$1,000, and be farmed by the same family continuously for 100 years or more.
- There are approximately 900 century farms in Tennessee.
- The fiscal impact of this bill is dependent upon projects that are either currently in the planning stages or are works-in-process where century farmlands are to be used. Enactment of this legislation would require such projects to be diverted away from originally proposed sites creating additional costs for new surveys, design plans, right-of-way acquisitions, etc.
- In addition, there would be a fiscal impact due to future roadway projects shifting from projects that would be more cost effective (due to farmlands being more conducive for improvements) to projects that are more cost prohibitive (due to the likelihood of increased landscaping, blasting, rock removal, earth-moving, etc).

- According to the Department of Transportation, determining a precise fiscal impact for this bill is very difficult due to many unknown contingencies. However, the increase of state expenditures is estimated to exceed \$600,000.
- To the extent roadway project costs increase, fewer projects could be undertaken over time. As a result, enactment of this bill may impact future matching of federal funds that the state may have otherwise been qualified to receive.

**CERTIFICATION:**

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James W. White". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "James" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "White".

James W. White, Executive Director